

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION AND ABSTRACT**

*In the specification, page 1, line 4, please insert the following heading:*

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

*In the specification, page 1, line 5, please amend the sub-heading as follows:*

#### **1. Technical Field of Invention**

*In the specification, page 1, line 9, please amend the sub-heading as follows:*

#### **2. Background Description of the Related Art**

*In the specification, page 4, line 21, please amend the sub-heading as follows:*

#### **Disclosure Brief Summary of the Invention**

*In the specification, page 6, lines 1-25, please amend the paragraph as follows:*

The above aim of the present invention can be achieved by a storage-medium rental system for temporarily providing, from a rental agent to a user, a right to use digital work stored in a portable storage medium, where a portable semiconductor memory is connected to a rental-shop apparatus when the rental agent rents the user the storage medium, and the storage medium and the semiconductor memory are connected to a playback apparatus when the user plays back the digital work; ~~the~~ The storage-medium rental system including includes: the storage medium that prestores digital content data representing the digital work; the semiconductor memory that has an area for securely storing information; the rental-shop apparatus that securely writes right

information into the area of the semiconductor memory when the rental agent rents the user the storage medium, the right information showing a range of the right to use the digital work stored in the storage medium; the playback apparatus that, upon receipt of an instruction from the user to play back the digital work, (a) securely reads the right information from the area of the semiconductor memory, (b) judges whether the digital work is allowed to be used or not, based on the read right information, and (c) only when judging that the digital work is allowed to be used, reads the digital content data from the storage medium and plays back the digital work based on the read digital content data.

*In the specification, page 22, line 7, please amend the sub-heading as follows:*

Best Mode for Carrying Out Detailed Description of the Invention

*In the specification, page 45, line 22-25 to page 46, lines 1-7, please amend the paragraph as follows:*

When judging that the present date and time is before the rental end date or is on the rental end date (step S155), the control unit 203 sends a request to read an encrypted title key from the DVD 30, to the DVD player 40 via the IF unit 205. The control unit 404 receives the request via the IF unit 407 (step S171). Then, the control unit 404 reads the encrypted title key from the DVD 30 (step S161), and outputs the read encrypted title key to the IC card 20 via the IF unit 407. The control unit 203 receives the encrypted title key via the IF unit 205, and outputs the encrypted title key to the decryption unit 202 (step S162).

*In the specification, page 73, line 8, please amend the sub-heading as follows:*

Industrial Application